

THE GENERIC STATUS OF ZODION PALPALIS ROBERTSON  
(DIPTERA, CONOPIDAE), WITH GENERIC KEY TO THE  
FAMILY.

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While visiting Mr. Charles Robertson in 1918 I obtained from him a specimen of his species *Zodion palpalis* in order to ascertain if it really belonged to the genus in which he had described it, some doubt having been expressed on that point by one of Mr. Robertson's correspondents. The species undoubtedly runs out to *Zodion* when one uses Williston's key to the genera, but there are some characters which ally it closely with *Occemyia* as well as those which indicate its affinities with *Zodion*. In fact, the species possesses some of the characters of both genera and the only course possible to me is to erect for the reception of the species a new genus which is accordingly done in this paper.

I give a synoptic key to the genera occurring north of Mexico, as the most efficient method of expressing the relations and distinctions of this and other genera. Many of the characters used in the key are used here for the first time.

*Key to Genera.*

1. Pteropleura with a long bristle; vertex, lateral margins of dorsum of thorax, and scutellum with a few long strong bristles; anal cell very small (Stylogastrinae).....*Stylogaster* Macquart
- Pteropleura unarmed; vertex, lateral margins of dorsum of thorax, and scutellum without bristles, or with a few which are but little differentiated from the surrounding hairs; anal cell large..... 2
2. Third antennal joint with a 3-jointed style at apex; abdomen constricted basally, the second and usually the third segments longer than broad; subcosta and first branch of radius connected by a cross-vein; halteres with some short hairs at base of knobs on outer side (Conopinae)..... 3
- Third antennal joint with a dorsal arista; abdomen not noticeably constricted basally, the second and third segments each broader than long (Myopinae)..... 4
3. Propleura with a bristle on lower margin; posterior metathoracic area below base of abdomen and extending between hind coxae not uniformly chitinized, the small portion projecting from between coxae separated from the broad upper portion by a much less heavily chitinized area; hind femora regularly thickened, the thickest part at middle.....*Conops* Linne
- Propleura bare; posterior metathoracic area below base of abdomen uniformly heavily chitinized; femora irregularly thickened on basal half.....*Physocephala* Schiner

4. A cross-vein connecting subcosta and first branch of radius; proboscis not geniculated at middle..... 5  
 No cross-vein connecting subcosta and first branch of radius; these veins sometimes slightly fused at apices; proboscis geniculated at or near middle as well as at base..... 6
5. Femora without short thorns on apical half of antero- and postero-ventral surfaces; first posterior cell open, or closed at extreme apex; palpi very small, not longer than diameter of proboscis at their bases ..... *Zodion* Latreille  
 Femora with some short thorns on apical half of antero- and postero-ventral surfaces; first posterior cell long-stalked; palpi long, about 3 times as long as diameter of proboscis at their bases ..... *Robertsonomyia* gen. n.
6. Femora without short thorns on apical half of antero- and postero-ventral surfaces; anal cell short, basal section of fifth vein not longer than apical..... *Dalmannia* Robineau-Desvoidy  
 Femora with short thorns on apical half of antero- and postero-ventral surfaces; anal cell elongate, basal portion of fifth vein much longer than apical. .... 7
7. Hind coxae bare on their inner posterior margin; cheek as high or almost as high as eye..... *Myopa* Fabricius  
 Hind coxae with some hairs on inner posterior margin; cheek not nearly as high as eye..... *Occemyia* Robineau-Desvoidy

**Robertsonomyia, gen. n.**

The relationships and distinguishing characters of this genus are given in the synopsis. The genus is undoubtedly closely allied to *Zodion* but possesses many of the characters of *Occemyia*.

*Genotype*.—*Zodion palpalis* Robertson.

The type and only species of this genus has been recorded only from Illinois by Mr. Charles Robertson, in whose honor the genus is named.

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